

Appl. No. 09/714,785
Amdt. dated June 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 9, 2003

PATENT

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12 line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Many kinds of system maintenance and updating functions are enabled by the network interface. In a specific embodiment, once a visitor signs-in at the kiosk, a communication is entered into between kiosk computer 202 and server 22. In this specific embodiment, the communication is implemented using a Unix socket that is opened to a process on the server 22. Then, the kiosk computer 202 sends a message that indicates to the server 22 that a new visitor has arrived. Responsive to this message, a process on the server 22 opens an ftp connection, for example, to the kiosk computer 202 and obtains copies of the files associated with the newly arrived visitor. These files can include for example a business card image, a result of processing the business card ~~image~~ image using an OCR, text data, a sound file, a video clip, and the like. The kiosk computer 202 can also respond to status requests made by server 22 over network 20, for example. The kiosk computer 202 tracks its performance using a variety of statistical measures, such as a date program started, a number of visitors, a date of last visitor logged in, and the like. In specific embodiments, statistical moments such as mean, mode, average, standard deviation, kurtosis, and the like, known in the art track numbers of visitors, their arrival times, and the like. Then, upon request by server 22, which may be made using a socket call, for example, the kiosk computer 202 sends a list of logged events and/or statistics to the requester. The server 22 can verify that the kiosk 100 has been operating normally by analyzing the statistics sent to it by kiosk computer 202.--